

The Tenant Farmer

More Than a Trade Union or Farm Journal
Devoted to Extending Democracy On the Home Front

VOL. 1

MEMPHIS, TENN., AUGUST 15, 1941

No. 4

Defense Jobs Opened to STFU Members



JOSEPH V. MORESCHI

The General President of the International Union of Hod Carriers and Common Laborers meeting in Washington, D. C., with H. L. Mitchell on August 7 agreed to give first consideration to members of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union on all defense jobs.

Mr. Moreschi's Union holds contracts for supplying common labor in construction of defense projects throughout the U. S. A. Letters are being sent out to all officials of the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers Union stating that they should recognize the STFU membership cards and give their holders preference on construction jobs near their homes.

The General President of this International Union, affiliated with the A. F. of L. was born and raised on a small farm near Chicago and has traveled widely throughout the South. His Union has succeeded in establishing minimum wage rates of 40 cents to 60 cents per hour for common labor in all Southern states.

Hungry and Unhealthy Men Unwanted By Army

Army records show that over 40 per cent of all young men called up in the draft are unfit for military service. In rural Southern states nearly half of the draftees are rejected because of neglected diseases or disability. The New York Times reports 430,000 out of every million needs medical or surgical treatment. Present findings show that as a Nation, we are in no better physical condition than we were in 1917.

Farm Labor Supply Down; Wages Higher

The report issued by the Department of Agriculture July 11 reports the farm labor supply down to 67 per cent of normal. Able bodied farm men are leaving for the Army and defense industries. Old men are coming out. School children and women are being drafted in many areas for work in the fields.

According to this report, the only farm area in the United States where there is a hundred per cent labor supply in relation to demand is the Eastern Arkansas and Mississippi Delta plantation section, and the desert in Nevada.

That cotton planters in the MidSouth are becoming increasingly alarmed at the prospect of a shortage of cotton pickers is shown by a memorandum sent out in Southeast Missouri by the Pemiscott County chairman of the AAA committee urging planters to apply to the U. S. Employment Service for workers and stating that rules require WPA workers to accept private employment at prevailing wages when offered. As intimated, WPA is expected to cooperate by cutting off workers regardless of rate of pay being offered. WPA workers are not required to work for less than established wage rates nor to act as scabs or strike breakers. The Southern Tenant Farmers Union will hold wage conferences and set fair and reasonable wages for picking cotton in all regions this year.

Cotton Going Up

The price of cotton reached 17 cents in July on the 10 cotton markets of the country to set a record for 11 years. The Government reports indicate a crop of about 10,000,000 bales in 1942. Most Senators and Congressmen from Southern states are in favor of pegging prices at about 20 cents per pound. Senator Eastland, from Mississippi, expects cotton to bring 30 cents per pound. The Commodities Credit Corporation would be forbidden to sell any of 6,000,000 surplus bales held in storage if amendment reported out by the Senate Agricultural Committee is adopted.

Shady Grove Picnic Big Success

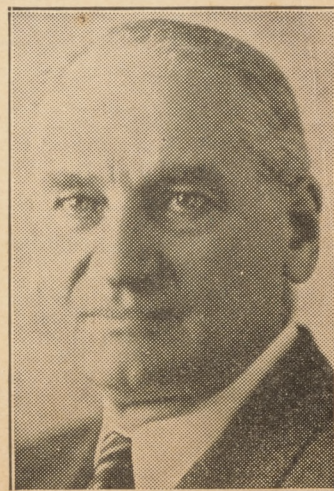
An all day meeting was held by the Shady Grove Local on August 8th. Over five hundred attended and there were plenty of good things to eat. Speakers on the program were J. E. Clayton, of Houston, Texas, B. S. Beck, of Gobler, and B. H. Reagan of Kennett, Missouri.

The program was sponsored by the Educational Committee of Local No. 6 whose members are: R. D. Drew, T. B. Burggens and M. J. Jones.

Extent U. S. Farm Land

The present crop land area in the U. S. A. is about 415 million acres. There are about 342 million acres which is classed as good land. There are 6 million farm families or 57 acres per family.

A Senator Comes South



WM. LANGER

Senator William Langer, sponsor of the STFU Minimum Wage bill in the United States Senate, will speak at a series of meetings arranged by the Union the last of August. The first of these rallies will be held at Kennett, Missouri, on Saturday, the 30th. The Senator will then go to Arkansas and address a gathering at Brinkley at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, the 31st.

For Labor Day, the following Monday, a "Farm and Labor Celebration" is being arranged by the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers Union at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and the Senator will make the main address of the day there. The Alabama Locals of the STFU are cooperating in the joint celebration of Labor Day with the Hod Carriers and other A. F. of L. Unions.

Army Sends Farmer Home For the Harvest

Fifty-seven farmers wrote a letter to Washington asking the U. S. Army to release Private John Prochaska for the wheat harvest in Illinois. "Private John" was the only man in the county who knew how to run a wheat thrasher. He was sent home on a 30-day furlough.

Arkansas Farm Bureau Breaking Up

Three county organizations of the Arkansas Farm Bureau are reported in revolt against the participation of their state officers in a wholesale dismissal of Extension Service officials at the University of Arkansas.

How Farm Security Administration Is Helping Tenant Farmers, Sharecroppers, Farm Laborers

By LEONARD G. HERRON

To the Farm Security Administration, an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been entrusted the job of helping worthy tenants, sharecroppers, and farm laborers to make a better living and to anchor themselves to the land. Loans of various types are provided by FSA to small-farm families who cannot get credit on reasonable terms anywhere else. Every loan is accompanied by friendly guidance and assistance in good farming and home-making practices, in order that the family can get the most benefit from it.

Standard rehabilitation loans, repayable over a period from one to five years at 5 percent interest, are made to farmers who need seed, tools, livestock, and other equipment necessary to carry on farming operations. Since the repayments are often spread out over a 5-year period, every effort is made to get a satisfactory long-term lease.

The basis of this loan is a farm and home management plan, worked out by the family with the help of Farm Security Administration supervisors. This farm and home management plan provides, (1) that the family raise as nearly as possible all its own food and the livestock and poultry feed, (2) that there be two or more sources of cash income, and (3) that soil conservation be practiced. This the three principles of good farming—self-sufficiency, diversification, and soil conservation—are being practiced by some 60,000 small farmers in Texas and Oklahoma.

Each borrower agrees to keep business-like records and the county FSA farm and home supervisors visit the families occasionally to advise with them concerning crop rotations, livestock and crop management, purchases, marketing, and other farm problems.

FSA is interesting in seeing small farmers get together and discuss their mutual problems and solutions. Out of these discussion groups often develops the need for equipment or services which no one of the small farmers can afford by himself. An FSA co-operative loan can be made to such groups for such things as tractors, combines, pure-bred herd sires, veterinary services, spraying and many other things which a single farmer could not afford alone.

These co-op loans enable small farmers to compete with larger, better-equipped farmers. Because of the community spirit built up by these co-ops, this phase of the FSA program is sometimes called the "Good Neighbor" policy for small farmers.

Frequently farmers have difficulty in making ends meet because of sickness in their families. In a number of counties in Texas and Oklahoma, local medical associations have helped organize group health programs to provide medical care at a cost small farmers can afford. Farm Security lends the money to families to enable them to take part in a plan of prepaid medical care.

Another reason why small farmers are having a hard time getting along is that they are staggering along under a burden of debt which is greater than their ability to pay. The Farm Security Administration provides a means by which these debts can be adjusted to their ability to pay and it is available to all farmers, whether or not they take part in other phases of the FSA program.

A local farm debt adjustment committee meets with the debt-burdened farmer and his creditor for a discussion of their mutual problems. Often it is possible to reach an agreement for extending the time of payment, reducing interest rates, or scaling down the debt. In this way the farmer is saved from foreclosure and the creditors get substantial payments on what otherwise might have been bad debts.

Tenant Children

Often we are eager to help the unfortunate of far away places when there is neglected opportunity right at home.

Visiting on a plantation near Memphis, a woman writes The Press-Scimitar's Cynthia Grey that she is amazed at the plight of tenant children.

"They have no toys," she writes, "few clothes and barely enough to eat. They lack reading matter—books, newspapers and magazines—and crave it. They will talk for days about something they have read in an old newspaper."

And the grown-ups lack fruit jars. They would welcome small mayonnaise and pickle jars that city folks throw away.

Let's see if we can't do something about this—or is it too close home?

*The above editorial is reprinted from
The Press Scimitar, Memphis Tenn.,
August 1, 1941*

These farm debt adjustment committees have recently undertaken to help small farmers to get better land-tenure agreements and more equitable purchase contracts, in addition to debt adjustment activities. Meetings are held monthly in most counties and all debt-burdened farmers are invited to attend.

Probably the second biggest job undertaken by FSA is the making of farm-purchase loans under the Bankhead-Jones act. With these loans, worthy small farmers can buy a farm of their own. The loans are repayable over a period of 40 years at 3 percent interest. An interesting feature is the variable payment plan, under which farmers pay extra amounts in years of good crops and prices to take care of years of poor crops and low prices.

County committees, each consisting of three farmers, decide which applicants for these farm-purchase loans shall receive them. Character, ability and farming experience are the basis of selection.

Another phase of FSA's program for helping small farmers to make a better living on the land and to enjoy moderate security is its homesteads projects. In the two states of Oklahoma and Texas, there are 12 such projects, each differing from the other but all made up of individual family-size farms. These communities are demonstrations in community rehabilitation of small farmers.

During the last 10 years, thousands of families have been forced off our Texas and Oklahoma farms by drought, mechanization, and many other causes. Most of these families are trying to earn a living as wandering farm laborers. A great many wander up and down the great state of Texas, working as cotton-pickers, in the onion, vegetable and fruit harvest, and in other agricultural work. These people seldom have homes other than make-shift camps, without sanitary facilities or even a good water supply.

To help remedy this situation, the Farm Security Administration has built seven migratory labor camps in Texas. Thus some degree of decent housing, sanitary facilities, and medical care is brought to a most needy people. These camps are open to all migrant families so long as there is room for them.

And finally, in cases of extreme need, FSA can make small grants to worthy farm families to buy food, medicine and other urgent necessities. Every effort is made to help families to whom grants have been made to get on a self-supporting basis as soon as possible, usually by means of rehabilitation loans.

Any farmer who is interested in applying for loans or services of the Farm Security Administration should call at the nearest county supervisor's office. FSA supervisors are experienced and trained agricultural and home economics workers and their only purpose is to help farm people. Offices are located in most county seat towns, usually in the court house or post office.

For the Women

By MRS. RAMONA WOOD

Let's have some Chili Sauce while tomatoes are in season. Here is a very simple recipe:

CHILI SAUCE

1 peck ripe tomatoes	½ cup salt
10 onions	tbsp. ground cinnamon
5 green peppers	tbsp. ground cloves
1 quart vinegar	tbsp. ground allspice
3 cups sugar	tbsp. ground mace

Scald, peel, and chop tomatoes and drain. Chop onions and peppers. Mix all ingredients, including spices, and cook slowly five hours. Pack into clean hot jars on which new clean rubbers have been adjusted and seal.

* * * *

If you are planning an oven-baked dinner and you have fresh corn on hand, here is a mighty good recipe for:

BAKED CORN PUDDING

4 cups corn	1 teaspoon salt
1 cup milk	¼ teaspoon pepper
3 eggs	1 green pepper
3 tablespoons butter	

Cut the corn from the cob and add beaten eggs, the milk, butter, seasonings and diced green pepper. Place in a buttered baking dish and bake in an oven at 400 degrees for 50 minutes.

* * * *

While apples are in season, we all like apple pie but maybe you are tired of apple pie and would like to try an old-fashioned dessert of:

APPLE SNOW

¾ cup apple pulp Whites 3 eggs Pwdrd. sugar
Pare, quarter and core 4 sour apples. Steam until soft and rub through sieve. Beat the whites of eggs until stiff; add gradually apples sweetened to taste. Pile lightly on a dish and serve with custard sauce or whipped cream. One tablespoon lemon juice may be added.

* * * *

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

A grease spot can often be removed in the following manner: Place a piece of wax paper under the fabric, press the fabric with a not too hot iron and the wax paper will absorb the grease.

Did you know that a tablespoon of vinegar added to the rinse water will lengthen the life of your hose?

Fifty Million Dollars To Buy Land and Homes

The Farm Security Administration has just made allotments among states of the money appropriated by Congress for loans to tenants to purchase farms.

The largest amount, \$4,297,245 was earmarked for loans in Texas, Mississippi was second with \$3,777,500.

According to the FSA, the \$50,000,000 should provide loans to approximately 9,000 families for purchase of farms on easy payment terms, payable over 40 years with interest at three percent.

The average cost of farms thus far purchased has been \$4,200.

Allocations by states include:

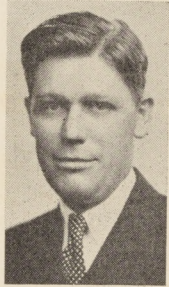
Alabama, \$3,205,775.
Arkansas, \$2,407,055.
Georgia, \$3,339,895.
Kentucky, \$1,698,210.
Louisiana, \$2,067,715.
South Carolina, \$2,084,110.
Tennessee, \$2,085,660.

Men Of The Land

By H. L. MITCHELL, Secretary

With the STFU In Alabama

For the first time, the STFU is organizing in the Southeast; new organizations have been established in the Tennessee River Valley. Since



H. L. MITCHELL

we are going into the state at the invitation of the Alabama Federation of Labor, representing 118,000 organized workers, the task of organizing in this new territory is much easier—particularly in this section of Alabama, where people are union conscious. Much of this is due to the fair labor policies of the TVA. With the support of 20,000 A. F. of L. trade unionists, the STFU is on its way to substantial organization in this region. International and local agents of the Hod Carriers

and Common Laborers Union are giving STFU organizers full co-operation. James Hampton, international representative and vice president of the State Federation of Labor was among the first to take out a card in the STFU. Roy E. Raley, business agent for the Sheffield local of the Hod Carriers is assisting in directing the organizing campaign.

Locals have been set up in the county where Edward O'Neal, National President of the Farm Bureau, owns a large plantation. Considerable interest is being expressed in the STFU, for no bona fide organization of small farmers, tenants, sharecroppers, and farm laborers has been in this section of Alabama for many years. There is a diversity of problems. Small farm owners on the hillside farms are furnishing the local leadership among the white; Negro and white sharecroppers and farm laborers are organizing on the plantations of the Valley. Mass meetings are well attended, and the "Tenant Farmer" is being read widely, and passes from hand to hand.

A RADIO DEBATE

On the morning of July 18th, I delivered an address over radio station WMC in Memphis. Appearing on the same program was Hugh L. Gary, president of the Delta Council, an organization of Mississippi cotton planters. While we were in disagreement on many points, we did agree that there was a need for a training program to teach young farm people how to operate farm machinery, since complete mechanization of cotton farming is at hand. Mr. Gary's address was an excellent statement of the planters' point of view.

A DICTATORSHIP PROPOSED FOR AAA PROGRAM

According to the Washington Merry-Go-Round, the Farm Bureau and National Grange moguls are again plotting against the farmers of the nation. The latest piece of chicanery by these politicians is to create a five-man board to administer "AAA." A bill has been drafted, which has not been introduced in Congress as yet, that would supposedly give the farmer control of AAA. R. M. "Spike" Evans, now head of AAA, has been "propositioned," say Drew Pearson and Bob Allen, Merry-Go-Round columnists. Walter Randolph, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau, would be on the board, as well as a representative of the Grange. These three would then pick the other two. Neither Congress, the President, Secretary Wickard, nor the farmers would have anything to say about the matter. Once such a scheme became the law, these men would do the controlling of AAA.

"TENANT CHILDREN"

An editorial with the above title (reprinted in this issue) appearing in the Press Scimitar may lead to the formation of a Memphis committee to aid sharecroppers by collecting and distributing clothing, toys, books, fruit jars, etc., to families who are in need. When this editorial came out, I called Mr. Edward J. Meeman, the Editor, and went down to see him. Since Memphis has committees to aid England, help China and others in need throughout the world, I proposed that a group of Memphis citizens get together to help people near home as well. Mr. Meeman pledges the full support of his paper to this effect. Evelyn Smith, former office secretary of the STFU has agreed to come down and work on this for thirty days on behalf of the Union.

* * * * *

IN WASHINGTON

In Washington, I met with President Morzeschi, of the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers Union, who has agreed to send out a letter to all officials and locals of his Union telling them to recognize the STFU membership card and give our members preference on construction jobs under the defense program. This means that STFU members will be given first choice when they apply for work. The A. F. of L. Union holds contracts to supply all common labor used in building army camps, industrial plants, etc., now being put up all over the country.

* * * * *

Harold Oram, Campaign Director for National Sharecroppers Week in 1940 and 1941, will pay us a visit about the same date Senator Langer comes.

* * * * *

Miss Margaret Valiant, Music Director for the N. Y. A., whose letter appears in this issue of The Tenant Farmer, may also be down soon and make records of the STFU songs. Miss Valiant was born and raised on a plantation in Mississippi where her family were tenant farmers. She is the NYA official who was largely responsible for the formation of the noted American Youth Orchestra directed by Stokowski. Miss Valiant has for several years collected American Folk Songs and has long been interested in original songs that grew out of the Union struggle.

* * * * *

WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN WASHINGTON

While in Washington, I learned that Secretary Wickard did not intend to be present at the Hot Springs meeting of Farm Bureau. I talked with Under-Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Paul H. Appleby, about several matters including the minimum wage law for farm labor. Mr. Appleby leaves soon for England. Gardner Jackson, former Washington representative of the STFU from 1935 to 1937 is now back with the Department of Agriculture in Washington.

* * * * *

SENATE TO HOLD HEARINGS ON MINIMUM WAGES FOR FARM LABOR

Hearings before a Sub-Committee of the United States Senate will be held between September 10 and 15 according to Senator Elmer Thomas of Utah, Chairman of the Education and Labor Committee.

The STFU will send a delegation to Washington for the hearings.

18 Pound Son Born

A child, the largest at birth ever reported in this section, was born Sunday, July 6, in a sharecropper's cabin near Wynne, Arkansas. Lucille Gary, 40 years old, is the mother of 10 girls and one other boy.

LETTERS TO THE TENANT FARMER

Brickbats and Bouquets

Editor,
The Tenant Farmer.

Sir:
I have at hand the June issue of your paper. I note an attack upon Claude Williams by way of an ostensible book review. I deplore your lapse from constructive effort. The facts in your article are not substantiated. I would be glad to read your evidence. Send me the material you mention.

EDITH C. LAWRENCE,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for mailing me the trial report on Claude Williams. It is especially valuable to me because it is such a graphic account of the sort of thing that has happened over and over again in our progressive organizations, and I have had practical experience with it. It is both a vindication of the Christian idea of individual integrity and a sad commentary on the social backwardness of the Christian churches, that Williams should pour his idealism in a channel where he is working for fine things, but in a way by which he cannot call his soul his own, thus ruining everything he hopes to achieve. Once more I am impressed with the integrity of the STFU. A small check is enclosed to help your paper along.

Fraternally,

JOSIAH R. BARTLETT,
Minister,
First Unitarian Church,
Marietta, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Your letter requesting a small contribution toward future publication of the Tenant Farmer has just been received. I note not only the modesty of your reference to the quality of the publication, but also that of the request. I noted the total cost of printing 5,000 copies is only \$100, for we are all accustomed to hearing that practically everything costs hundreds of thousands or millions. Also we are becoming increasingly conscious, as requests for contributions roll in, of how that money is spent. We know that many organizations spend a lot of money for good addresses, and the like, and we wonder how much gets to the consumer. But, in the case of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, no such apprehension is felt. On the contrary, knowing how inadequate the equipment and office space is and knowing something of your own modest requirements, I strongly suspect that not only 99 per cent of every dollar you receive goes directly to the tenant farmers, but even more from your own pocket.

I have had qualms about a few organizations, but about the STFU and its leadership my only qualm has been that I have never done as much as I could to show my support of its contribution to practical democracy. I don't know if the work of the STFU will pull much weight in our defense program, but I do know that once peace has returned to the world everyone will feel grateful for the orderly, intelligent, and realistic program you are working so hard to achieve. Therefore, I am writing to say I would feel honored if I might underwrite an entire issue of the "Tenant Farmer." He is my friend and relative with whom I lived as a child and by whose help I received my opportunity to travel and learn, and his cause will always be mine.

Sincerely,
MARGARET VALIANT,
Washington, D. C.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN Building The Union

July 29, 1941.

You will note from the date given above that this is being written some two weeks in advance of publication. This will account for the absence of any news of very late developments in the organization field.

Work has begun in Alabama. Brother Mitchell, Brother Griffin and Brother Tanner have all spent some time there getting organization under way. They report that prospects are very good.

Brother E. G. Creasey and I spent the week of July 20 in Oklahoma working with Odis Sweeden. The Hanes Local in Wagner County and the New Hope Local in Muskogee County are showing a great deal of interest and good growth. Very valuable meetings were held during the week at Summit, Muskogee, Hanes, Oktaha, Clarksville and Wybark. Brother Creasey remained to assist Brother Sweeden in getting work started in McIntosh County.

On July 25, I went over near Hendersonville, N. C. to attend a board meeting of the Southern Summer School for Workers. It is unfortunate that we were unable to have any students in attendance at this session of the Southern Summer School. The school is being held this year in a very beautiful location and the work that is being done is of a high order. The session this year impresses me as being one of the best in years.

Recently, I received telegrams and letters from certain agencies in Mexico concerned with agricultural problems in the Laguna Region in the states of Coahuila and Durango which is the cotton growing section of Mexico, asking me to come to Torreón and attend the Agricultural Workers' Conference there on August 4, 5 and 6. They also invited me to remain for three months to assist in working out the problem of moving a part of the population to other regions in Mexico. The Laguna Region has suffered from a very severe drought which makes it necessary to shift their present plans of operation.

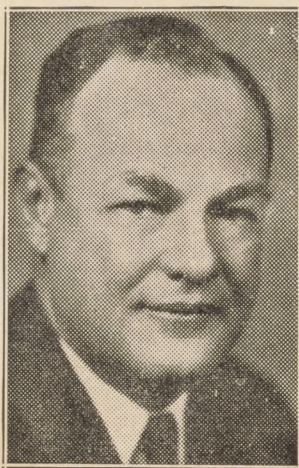
I do not feel that my duty to our own Union will permit me to stay but for a very short time in Mexico; still it seems that our good neighbor policy makes it my duty to, at least, attend the conference and render whatever service I find it possible to render to our Mexican brothers in the short time that I shall be able to stay. I will give you an account of the Conference and of my visit in the September issue of The Tenant Farmer.

We should not forget that labor still has certain rights guaranteed by law and we should take full advantage of these guarantees. Organized labor must now make the strongest fight it has ever made to keep the gains of the past 10 years. We must protest every violation of our civil rights and of our right to organize.

Remember that the National Labor Relations Act states that "Employees shall have the right to self organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations; to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and to engage in concerted activities for the purposes of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection."

While, unfortunately, agricultural labor is not specifically covered by all the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, still in a

Secretary of Agriculture



Claude R. Wickard

A War of Food

Every nation in Europe is rationing food. People in 24 nations are starving. More important than the Battle of Britain, the Battle of the Atlantic, the Battle of Russia is the Battle for Food. The battle ground is on the farms of the United States.

Claude R. Wickard, corn and hog farmer of Indiana, now Secretary of Agriculture, directs the campaign. Farmers are being advised to change their crop plans for next year. Cotton is not needed but the world needs milk, butter, eggs, cheese, pork, lard, beef, fruits and vegetables. Defense industries are being established in the South. Well-paid workers will buy more food. The South has a market for products at its door. A one-crop system with attendant evils of farm tenancy and semi-slavery may be undermined if not destroyed in the next few years.

Cotton Local No. 8 Reports

Maggie G. Hill, chairman of the Educational Committee, reports Local No. 8 is growing. An ice cream social was held and funds were raised for the local's treasury. A box of clothing was distributed at the meeting and the children of Union members made happy by getting "new clothes" as well as ice cream.

general way these rights belong and are guaranteed to us just as surely as they are to purely industrial workers. Don't forget either that we have a bill already introduced in the Senate by Senator William Langer of North Dakota which if passed will give us a wages and hours act of our own. Our big job now is to organize more and more of our friends and neighbors into our Union so that we can put up a bigger, better and stronger fight for our own interests. The law guarantees us the right to do this. Do not let anybody scare you into giving up this right.

Fraternally,

J. R. BUTLER.

Organizing Campaign Underway

The Executive Council of the STFU, meeting in Memphis July 11 and 12, adopted a program calling for an intensive organizing campaign during "layby time." Farm work is at a standstill up until September 1st when the cotton opens and picking begins. Farm people are free to attend meetings for once in the year.

The program adopted by the Council called for extending the Union to the Southeastern cotton growing states as well as to Texas and Oklahoma. Two general organizers, Dave Griffin and W. M. Tanner, were assigned to work in Alabama and several large locals have already been established in the Tennessee Valley area.

B. H. Reagan, small farm owner of Kennett, was assigned to work in the key state of Missouri. F. R. Betton, vice president, is at work full time, having the responsibility for general organization in Mississippi, Arkansas and Missouri. J. E. Clayton, of Houston, Texas, was likewise assigned to general organization in Texas and Oklahoma. J. F. Hynds, of Forrest City, Arkansas, continues his work of handling complaints. Twenty other part time and volunteer organizers were given credentials. All are working under the supervision of the national officers and H. L. Mitchell, secretary, is directing the campaign in the field.

The Executive Council also elected a special committee to set up machinery to aid members of the Union in locating and purchasing land and homes as well as to sponsor co-operative buying and selling projects in all communities where the Union is operating.

The Tenant Farmer official publication was set up on a permanent basis with the Executive Council as the editorial board. H. L. Mitchell was designated as the editor.

A statement was authorized stating that the STFU was not investigating the Delta Co-operative Farms in Mississippi. A committee which held a joint hearing with the Trustees of the Farms in 1940 was dissolved by the last convention.

Officers were instructed to push the legislative program of the Union during the next three months and to attempt to get hearings on the Langer minimum wage law. The Council adjourned to meet again October 15 in regular session.

STFU Reports Draft Evaders

J. F. Hynds, special investigator for the STFU, recently reported a case of draft evasion involving three tenants and a prominent St. Francis County planter.

According to information supplied the FBI, the three men had been ordered by their landlord not to register for selective service last October.

STFU Students Return

Jennie Ben Upshaw and Alberta Hynds, who were students at the Hudson Shore Labor School, at West Park, New York, have just returned to their homes in Arkansas. Jennie Ben, who is secretary of her local at Cotton Plant, and Alberta, who is the daughter of J. F. Hynds, special investigator for the STFU, will be available for mass meetings throughout the rest of the summer.

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